Southern Cross

1912 60th year 1972

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DIAMOND MASS — On a baseball field, through the backstop, the Bishop of Mexicali, Manuel Perez Gil, and ten concelebrants can be seen at the Misa Panamericana at Stark Field, El Centro, honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe. The chill winter afternoon brought shivering crowds to the stadium from ten parishes in Imperial Valley. But the sun did shine for about three minutes when Bishop Perez Gil read the Gospel. — SC photo

It was still a day to celebrate

Guadalupe spirit outshines miserable weather

By Nicholas Biondo

THE MEXICAN-American celebration honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe last Sunday took on an Anglo-Saxon twist in San Diego when Mayor Pete Wilson received a special award for his efforts in behalf of the Mexican-American community – the Sociedades Guadalupanas.

Bishop Leo T. Maher also presented a similar award to Assemblyman Peter Chacon after a Spanish Mass concelebrated by the bishop and 15 other priests in San Diego's Community Concourse Golden Hall.

Accepting the award, Mayor Wilson told nearly 3,000 people in the hall that "San Diego es su ciudad."

BISHOP MAHER hailed the annual celebration of the Guadalupe feastday for "promoting devotion to the Virgin Mary and drawing people to her... Mexican-Americans will grow in love for Mary when they know the love she has for them."

The bishop was presented with a large scroll proclaiming establishment of a Bishop Leo T. Maher Scholarship Fund for Mexican-American college students. The fund was set up by the diocesan Spanish-Speaking Conference, headed by Msgr. Gilbert Chavez.

On-and-off rain dampened the colorful costumes and gay decorations, but not the spirits of marchers as they walked with floats and bands from Our Lady of Guadalupe church to the Community Concourse.

AS THE ST. AUGUSTINE'S high school band

Turn to page 11



ESCORT OF HONOR — Fiesta queen Kathy Benabidez poses in front of the banner honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe, El Centro, at start of celebrations at Stark Field. More than 1,000 persons braved the cold for the event. — SC

By Michael Newman

EL CENTRO — The uniforms of the children ranged from red to blue at Stark Field here for the Guadalupe celebrations. And by the end of the Sunday afternoon some of the children were turning blue, too.

It was cold — unusually cold — in the Imperial Valley where ten parishes came together to honor Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe. One priest said, "It's up to Our Lady now, we've done our part." And he looked at the leaden gray skies which had dropped snow even near the alfalfa and cotton plants.

Came the Gospel, read by principal concelebrant Bishop Manuel Perez Gil from

Turn to page 11

On the inside

For God's sake, dare... to clean up our cities

Talking Point in photos, pages 8,9

And don't forget..

Around the diocese . . . 2
CCD column 2
Diocesan news 3,10,11
Editorial 4
A time to keep 4
Opinion Forum 5
As women will. 6
Answer Please! 9
National, world news. . . .12
Spanish feature 14
Universal Church 15
Book reviews 16

Around the diocese

Bishop Leo T. Maher

Thursday, Dec. 14, 5:30 p.m., Big Bear Lake, St. Joseph church, Mass, Confirmation.

Friday, Dec. 15, 5:30 p.m., Guasti, San Secondo D'Asti church, Mass, Confirmation.

Saturday, Dec. 16, noon, San Bernardino, Our Lady of Guadalupe church, ordination to priesthood of Rev. Mr. Frank Ponce.

Tuesday, Dec. 19, 5:30 p.m., San Diego, St. John the Evangelist church, Mass, Confirmation.

Wednesday, Dec. 20, 5:30 p.m., El Cajon, Holy Trinity church, Mass, Confirmation.

Sunday, Dec. 24, Midnight Mass, San Diego, St. Joseph cathedral.

Father Roger A. Lechner
Vice chancellor-secretary

* * * *

CDA Court Our Lady of Mt. Soledad bus trip Tournament of Roses, New Year's Day. Details: 488-2047, 272-2511. Deadline Dec. 15.

Stalpar Club Christmas party 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16, St. Joseph's Cathedral auditorium, San Diego.

Our Lady of Angels Parents Guild sight-seeing bus tour Monday, Dec. 18, leaving 656 24th St., San Diego, 5 p.m., return 9 p.m. Details: 239-1231.

St. Adelaide parish, Highland, visitation of selected homes by "Mary and Joseph," followed by Birth of Christ celebration and children's Christmas party.

Diocesan missions office sponsors San Diego Premiere "Man of La Mancha" for world leper fund 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14, Loma Theater, San Diego.

San Diego Deanery, DCCW, Christmas luncheon and food donation for holiday baskets to needy 11:30 a.m. Monday, Dec. 18, Town and Country Convention Center, Forum Senate Room, San Diego. Details: 295-1282, 195-6254.

The Rev. Mr. Frank Ponce to be ordained noon Mass Saturday, Dec. 16, Our Lady of Guadalupe church, San Bernardino, by Bishop Leo T. Maher.

The Immaculata parish choir, Alcala Park, San Diego, presents carols through the ages 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17, directed by Father Warren J. Rouse, OFM.

St. Brigid's parish choir and instrumentalists Christmas festival 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17, 4735 Cass St., Pacific Beach.

University of San Diego presents Ballet Folklorico de Tijuana 7:30 p.m. Sunday Dec. 17, Greek Theater, Alcala Park campus.

Academy of Our Lady of Peace benefits from **Man of La Mancha** presentation 8:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 18, Loma Theater, San Diego.

Sacred Heart parish choir, Ocean Beach, sings holiday program on Sun-Up, 8-9 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20, Channel 8, San Diego.

Knights of Columbus New Year's Eve celebration open to non-members, 444 Third Ave., Chula Vista. Information 427-8600.

Mt. Soledad area residents present "Our World of Holidays" program 7 and 8:15 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14, Decatur school auditorium, 6550 Soledad Mountain Rd., La Jolla.

Mercy Hospital and Medical Center Auxiliary open house 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14, former nursing school auditorium, San Diego. Information: 276-2299.

Is the *Southern Cross* on your mailing list for weekly parish bulletins for possible Around the diocese news items? Deadline for copy is Monday noon.



HELP FOR HOLY LAND — Msgr. John G. Nolan, head of the Pontifical Mission for Palestine, is warmly welcomed by Pope Paul at a Vatican audience. The Pope gave the monsignor $20,000 to buy clothing and medicine for needy children and the aging in the Holy Land at Christmas. Msgr. Nolan usually concelebrates Christmas Eve Mass in Bethlehem. He also is secretary of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, with headquarters in New York.

Blessed Sacrament children to mix fun with faith Dec. 22

A special Fun and Faith Day for children of Blessed Sacrament parish, San Diego, will take place 9 a.m.-noon Friday, Dec. 22.

They will listen to lessons, work on projects and play games — all on the theme "Finding Christ in Christmas."

At 7:30 that evening parents will attend a special liturgy celebration prepared by the children. For more information call Shirley Vasquez, 286-1946.

Challenges in Christian Development

The Martians are coming

CAN YOU IMAGINE the reaction of a visitor from Mars, if such were possible, who might land here during the next few weeks and visit a typical American Christmas home? He'd see — and can you imagine his surprise at seeing — a tree in the living room. And, even more curious, all that "junk" and lights on it! Could we give him some sensible explanation?

A popular adage advises: if you can't beat 'em, join 'em. Instead of fighting the seemingly secular customs of our society, perhaps we should recognize their Christian origins or even assign a Christian significance to them. That's how the date of Christmas was fixed anyhow.

It's an evergreen tree and symbolic of Christ's coming with everlasting life. It's strange to have a tree in the house, but it's also a little strange to realize that God entered our world. And giving that evergreen tree a place of importance in the home reminds us to welcome Christ.

THE LIGHTS REPLACE the candles — a little safer — which again remind us that Christ came to shed some light on a world of spiritual darkness.

The ornaments originated with hanging apples and hosts on the tree to represent Christ assuming the debt of sin and offering the "breath of life" instead. And the gifts beneath the tree recall that Christ was the perfect gift of the Father and calls us to generous response as reflected in the Magi story. The star or angel on top are obvious.

So the Christmas tree custom can be quite a graphic religion lesson. Maybe our families would reflect on it and appreciate it more if we imagined that Martians were coming and tried to have an explanation ready. Seen any UFOs lately?

Father William Gold



CHRISTMAS... A TIME FOR GIVING

THE HOLY FATHER'S MISSION AID TO THE ORIENTAL CHURCH

OUR GIFT TO YOU

The Midnight Mass in Bethlehem will be offered for the members of this Association. This is our Christmas thank you gift to you. Please pray for all of us, especially our priests and Sisters overseas. And have a happy Christmas!

A TRULY CHRIST-LIKE CHRISTMAS GIFT

Store window displays and newspaper advertisements remind us that Christmas is not too far off. . . . Is Christmas shopping a problem for you? What to give at Christmas to your relatives and friends need not be a puzzle any longer. . . . Use our attractive Christmas Gift Cards featuring a full color picture of "Our Lady of the East". . . . Complete your Christmas gift list now. It's simple. Select a gift below, send us the person's name and address with your donation—and we do all the rest. We'll send that person or persons a Gift Card before Christmas, saying what you have done. . . . At the same time your meaningful gift will give millions of people the Hope of the Christ Child.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS' GUIDE

- ☐ $1080 Train a native priest
- ☐ $ 300 Train a native Sister
- ☐ $ 100 Perpetual Family Membership in Catholic Near East Welfare Assoc.
- ☐ $ 100 Altar for mission chapel
- ☐ $ 75 Mass kit for a missionary priest
- ☐ $ 50 Set of Vestments
- ☐ $ 40 Chalice or Ciborium
- ☐ $ 25 Tabernacle or Crucifix
- ☐ $ 25 Individual Perpetual Membership
- ☐ $ 15 Sanctuary Lamp
- ☐ $ 10 Annual Family Membership
- ☐ $ 10 Food Package for a Refugee Family
- ☐ $ 5 Sanctuary Bell
- ☐ $ 2 Individual Annual Membership

MASS IN THE HOLY LAND

Our missionary priests in the Holy Land will be pleased to offer promptly the Masses you request at Christmas. Simply send us, with your offering, the names of your friends and loved ones, living and deceased.

AY

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APPROVED FOR VETERANS



RAIN OR SHINE — It was a misty day in Alta Loma, but ground was broken for the St. Peter and St. Paul parish church. As Bishop Leo T. Maher watches, left, Father Eamonn F. Lyng, founding pastor of the two-year-old parish, wields his shovel. Behind him are Father William Bolger, dean of the Ontario Deanery, which includes the Alta Loma parish, left, and Father Thomas Briody, pastor of St. Joseph's in Upland. Knights of Columbus were honor guard for bishop.

Father Fawcett disputes idea deacons will replace priests

Southern Cross Reporter

A PRIEST'S prediction that deacons will replace priests by the end of the century is disputed by the director of the diaconate program in this diocese.

Father Eugene Kennedy, Maryknoll priest and psychology professor at Loyola University of Chicago, told the annual national meeting of the permanent diaconate in Houston: "Despite affirmations to the contrary, despite all resistance stated in documents seven times sealed in wax, the (married) deacons of today are going to provide the priests of tomorrow."

Father Henry F. Fawcett, director of the San Diego diocesan permanent deacon program, who attended the meeting, told the **Southern Cross**, "With all due respect to Father Kennedy's capabilities in other fields, I think he has failed to study the history of the diaconate.

"WHAT HE IS REALLY predicting is that there will not be a permanent diaconate and what we have now is a new transitional diaconate. By tying the problem of priestly celibacy he has only confused two very distinct issues," said Father Fawcett.

Father William Philbin of Washington, D.C., director of the U.S. bishops' committee on the permanent diaconate, said he feels that even if the Vatican should ever decide to ordain married men to the priesthood, most deacons would not switch over. They prefer the idea of part-time church work while retaining secular jobs.

(Father Philbin was killed in the United Airlines crash in Chicago Dec. 8.)

Father Kennedy said he thought the Church was in an evolutionary stage whereby the ministry is moving out of the "celibate caste" and into the hands of the laity.

"I HAVE HEARD vocations in some places are increasing," he said. "This depresses me. The lack of men entering the celibate priesthood is the solution to the problem we had when the Church was clerically bloated."

Father Fawcett, answering Father Kennedy for SC readers, said: "At the present stage of the restoration of the permanent deacon there is a continuing temptation to contrast the deacon with the priest. The result is to arrive at a negative identity of the diaconate.

"The question the Church must ask is: 'How can the deacon render maximum service in an increasingly secular society where the impact of the Church and the gospel message of Jesus Christ is more and more ignored — a society where the presence of the Church is becoming less evident?'

"THE DEACON IS by his very nature, an intermediary and not a substitute for the priest – or a rival. If he becomes a substitute or a rival we will return to the difficulties of the early Church."

Father Fawcett said that to exist again, the deacon needs a strong challenge. "He will have to stand at the frontiers of society with his own identity as an ordained minister of Jesus Christ.

"As an ordained servant and leader he will have to represent the teaching Church, to foresee society's needs, to confront it with the Word of God, to bring it to the altar, and in turn to bring back the spiritual gifts to the front lines where the real renewal of society takes place."

Mist doesn't dampen enthusiasm

Alta Loma parish breaks ground for first church

Southern Cross Reporter

ALTA LOMA — There was mist in the air and the sun was trying very hard to glisten through the tall trees.

And to some who looked closely it seemed there also was mist in the eyes of a few older parishioners.

For this was the moment many of the Alta Loma community in San Bernardino county had been waiting for since early 1970.

IT WAS TIME to break ground and start building the parish's first church — dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

Bishop Leo T. Maher was there as shepherd of the diocese to turn over the first soil.

Others followed — Father Eamonn F. Lyng, founding pastor of the Alta Loma parish; Father William Bolger, dean of the Ontario Deanery, and Father Thomas Briody, pastor of St. Joseph's in nearby Upland, mother church of the new parish.

ALSO THERE were Peter Ticich, chairman of the parish's building program; and 84-year-old Mrs. Victor Cherbak, who has lived in the area for 50 years and other parish leaders.

The Spanish-style multi-purpose building will include a 450-seat church, six classrooms for religious education, a meeting and dining hall and a permanent chapel where the Blessed Sacrament will be reserved.

Expected to be completed by Easter, the parish complex is about one block from the public school where Masses will continue to be offered in the rented auditorium.

Vista youth finds Belgium school harder

Southern Cross Reporter

A PARISHIONER of St. Francis church, Vista, has discovered that things at school in Belgium differ from American ways. Steve Valdez, a foreign exchange student, finds it tough.

"It's very hard because I don't speak Dutch, but it's even harder because the teachers don't often announce their tests beforehand," he writes in a letter to the "Youthquake," St. Francis bulletin.

"You just come in (to class) and they say 'Take out a piece of paper,' and there's a test.

"I GO TO AN all-boys school. It is a Catholic school and I don't like it. The teachers are always saying 'Don't put your hands in your pockets... don't yawn in class... don't sit with your legs crossed,'" he writes.

He has found the churches "real interesting." He particularly has noticed the art of Reubens in several churches.

"It's also interesting in church that **everybody** puts 5 francs or 1 franc in the basket (about 10 cents or 2 cents)."

VALDEZ IS ON an American Field Service exchange and is in Antwerp, Belgium.

The Vista parish, in San Diego County, was founded in 1940. Father Earl Ullman is pastor.

Christ more concerned with 'faith, hope, charity' than Church structure

Southern Cross Reporter

CHRIST WAS more concerned with starting a community "committed to faith, hope and charity" and not an institutionalized Church, a University of San Francisco theology professor said in a CCD adult education lecture.

Father James P. Mackey, who also teaches philosophy, said the New Testament tells us that Christ "laid down the ideals and qualifications he sought in the early Christian leaders."

The structure of the Church, with offices and titles came later, he said, when the apostles and other early followers were looking for ways "to preserve and perpetuate the type of community Christ started."

SPEAKING ON "Christ — Foundation of the Church," Father Mackey said it is impossible to trace through the New Testament the development of Church structures and offices as we know them today.

"They did not always have the same meaning or prerogatives."

Although names of offices and titles changed, they filled needs of the times and helped to preserve and foster early Christianity.

FATHER Mackey observed that while it is "very regretful" there are strained relations between theologians and bishops, biblical research and scholarship should continue "no matter where it leads us."

He said answers are being sought to such questions as "How can we be sure of what the historical Jesus said and did? Can we trace the Office of bishops to that of the apostles? Did Christ actually name Peter as the 'rock' on which he founded his Church?"

Results of such study, he said, should not break links with Church tradition but should serve Christians in the present and help meet particular needs.

THE CHURCH institutionalization came after the death of the apostles when the "Jesus movement broke away from Judaism," he continued.

This movement was a result of the impact Christ had on his followers who regarded him as a "great prophet of religious faith," and saw his "acceptance of everyone — especially the outcast — and his commitment to serve their needs."

"His minute providence for everybody and everything was his faith," said Father Mackey. "He went around doing good. When they were hungry he fed them, when they were ill he cured them."

"HE DID THIS on the commitment of his own faith and the God he called his Father."

This type of commitment, Father Mackey said, "involved suffering, but it generated hope."



MEETING TOGETHER — Staffs of the diocesan department of religious education (CCD) and the department of education held a working meeting last week to discuss common areas of action. From left clockwise are: Sister Josephine Breen, Father Michael McNally, Sister Gail Lambers, Sister Dolores Molina, Sister Margaret Ann Altmiller, Dr. H. Giles Schmid, diocesan school superintendent; Father William Gold, Father Denis Ryan, diocesan CCD director; Sister Helen Bay, Mrs. Caroline Campbell, Sister Patricia Ann Born and Thomas Horner (back to camera). Meeting took place at Diocesan Office, Alcala Park. — SC photo

A time to keep
by Michael Newman

Our Lady's month

December is not an official month of Our Lady, like October and May, but in the past few days we have enjoyed the musically joyful local festivities of Our Lady of Guadalupe and the special world celebration of the Immaculate Conception.

These weeks of Advent are surely also Our Lady's time. We wait, as she did, the coming of the great and happy event Unlike her, we try to anticipate and, with more thought for the commercial aspects, start all the trimmings immediately after Thanksgiving, if not before.

I remember the days when Christmas trees went up on Christmas eve, and the children did not see them until the morning, laden with gifts.

Not so immaculate

A few weeks ago, after shooting the series of pictures on pornography (pages 8-9) in downtown San Diego, I photographed the south window of the Immaculata on the hill in Alcala Park. This beautiful stained glass representation of the Immaculate Conception which we published Nov. 30, was distributed by Religious News Service to hundreds more newspapers.

As I developed the film I was struck by the juxtaposition of the photographs. After the tawdry sequence of "sex spots" downtown, the lovely image of the Immaculate Conception made its own comment. There's a whole homily there.

Bishop Ackerman well

Bishop Richard Ackerman, formerly auxiliary in this diocese, paid a quick visit last week. He was in Riverside for the centenary celebrations of his order — the Holy Ghost Fathers — and stopped over in San Diego. Those of you who remember the bishop will be pleased to know he's looking well and cheerful and surprised by some of the changes he found here.

He was auxiliary under Bishop Charles F. Buddy for exactly four years, from April 6, 1956 to April 6, 1960, when he was translated to the Diocese of Covington, Kentucky.

Elevator to heaven?

The recent biography of Henry R. Luce, the Time-Life owner who died at 68 in 1967, has caused interest wherever it has been reviewed. This determined Christian and almost equally determined conservative, headed a journalistic empire which changed the face of the art.

Biographer W. A. Swanberg has come in for some heavy criticism. In a lighter vein, however, comes the review by former **Time** man Thomas Dozier. He quotes Swanberg as saying that Luce rode the elevator in the 49th Street office alone each morning and evening to and from his office suite.

"He prayed to God every morning as he ascended 36 floors towards heaven. He wanted no interruption. . . The 36-floor prayer was repeated when he went down at the day's end."

Dozier comments: "I have no knowledge of Harry Luce's private devotions, and it would be quibbling to point out that if he rode, prayerfully or not, to the 36th floor he would indeed have had a good chance of ending up in heaven: the old Time-Life Building had only 34 floors."

Luce, a Presbyterian, married to an ardent Catholic convert, is buried in South Carolina in the corner of a vast estate he gave to the Trappists. He rests quietly after a life which certainly was far from calm.

Let us regret the forthcoming demise of **Life** magazine. The battle for the advertising dollar and crippling postage rate increases are killing off the printed word, while the television box grows fat.

Yantis signed up

The music of David Yantis is sung in many of our churches when folk Mass groups perform. Though not a Catholic, his Christian sense of music and liturgy has placed him in the forefront of contemporary



Hits the big time

writers. Now, at 39, he has hit the big time, and has been signed up by Word, Inc., the large music publishers of Waco, Texas.

A car accident at his Bonita home turned him from night club performer to religious music composer and singer. Now, five years later, he has come through many trials to be adopted by a publisher whose fame is great in that Bible-belt district.

Coming along — and with some way to go — is Ed Shafranske, the budding composer of St. James parish in Solana Beach (see story page 16). A different mood from Yantis music, the Shafranske touch is, to me, less smooth, more urgent, more youthful.

I still favor Nicolas Reveles, our seminarian composer, now at theology school in Washington, D.C. Out of all his works, the setting of Psalm 23 is, I believe, one of the finest contemporary hymns. At a funeral for a teenager in St. Mary's, Escondido, recently, it was sung as an entrance hymn – with a beautiful, moving effect.

Specious appeals

Watch out for specious religious (and other) appeals coming computerized through your mails these pre-Christmas days. If ever you are in doubt about the bona fides of a foreign mission appeal for funds, check with Father Anthony at the diocesan mission office. He will be glad to advise.

Apollo tops off

Praise once again for a dramatically smooth moon trip which looks like capping a wondrously successful series. Moonleader Cernan had a good excuse for missing Mass last Sunday, being a 100,000 miles or so from the nearest church. I have never understood this talk about "money spent on the moon." Surely it's spent here on earth, in jobs for people.

Editorial

Manifest destiny

During the 19th century they spoke about the "manifest destiny" of United States influence through this continent.

Could it be that in this second half of the 20th century the manifest destiny of its most populous state, California, might be to spread a revival and renewal of Christianity?

It is said that what California does today the rest of the world does 20 years later.

Given the power of Christian action and thought in outstanding dioceses and Catholic institutions, could not the generous faith of the People of God, so evident in the upsurge of Christian-oriented communities, lead this state to show the world the way back to Christ?

The deposit of faith in California is strong — built on the rock of those intrepid Franciscan missionaries who followed the Padre Junipero Serra trail from San Diego.

Their rosary-bead string of mission churches has been joined by a chain of Catholic colleges and universities, parishes and people whose wellspring of renewal in religion could replenish the world.

We have the ability. We have the talent. Is there vision and courage enough to bring the potential to reality?

Destino manifiesto

En el siglo diecinuevo se habló de "destino manifiesto" o sea de la influencia de los Estados Unidos a lo largo de todo el continente.

Podría suceder que en esta segunda mitad del siglo veinte, el destino manifiesto de California, el más poblado de los estados de la unión, haya sido quizá el de propagar una reviviscencia y renovación del Cristianismo?

Se ha dicho que lo que California hace hoy, el resto del mundo la hace 20 años más tarde.

Dado el poder de la acción y del pensamiento Cristianos en las importantes diócesis e institutiones Católicas, no podría la generosa fe del Pueblo de Dios, tan evidente en el resurgir de las comunidades orientadas, conducir a este estado a mostrarle al mundo el camino de retorno hacia Cristo?

El depósito de la fe, en California está furtemente edificado sobre la roca de aquellos intrépidos misioneros Franciscanos que siguieron la huella del Padre Junipero Serra desde San Diego.

Su cinturón de cuentas de rosario en misiones e Iglesias, se ha juntado a una cadena de colegios y universidades Católicas, parroquias y gentes cuyo surgir de renovación religiosa podría abastecer al mundo.

Tenemos la capacidad. Tenemos los talentos. Hay suficiente visión y valentia en nosotros para conducir el potencial hasta su realización?

One minute Bible insight

"God said, 'Let us make man in our own image; in the likeness of ourselves, and let them be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven. . .' " (Genesis 1:26). Since we have been made in the image and likeness of God, every person reveals God to his neighbor. God had to look at himself to create each of us, for "through him (i.e — the Word of God who is God) all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him." (John 1:2)

Since all things were created through the Word who is God, and the perfect reflection of the Father, God, in creating us projects an aspect of himself into history in each human person. "He (Christ) is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command." (Hebrews 1:3)

Jesus was quite emphatic about the relationship between himself and Christians when he appeared to Paul who was persecuting the Christians. " ' Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' 'Who are you, Lord?' he asked, and the voice answered, 'I am Jesus, and you are persecuting me.' " (Acts 9:4+)

In fact, our final destiny will depend on how well we honor the relationship between Christ and people who are suffering. " 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?' And the King will answer, 'I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.' . . . Then he will answer, 'I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me.' And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.' " (Matthew 25:37+)

Father Jerome Bevilacqua, OSA

Southern Cross cpa

Bishop Leo T. Maher
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Michael C. Newman
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Living Spirit



Energetic efforts must be expended to make everyone conscious of his right to culture and of the duty he has to develop himself culturally and to assist others.

Constitution on the Church in the Modern World

Opinion Forum

CCD talks help arrival at truth

Judging from the letters that have appeared in your "Opinion Forum," a lot of people were confused by the talks by Brother Moran. I heard him in San Bernardino.

I don't claim any special insight, but here is what I think his main point was:

Each one of us should think for himself about the meaning of the things we observe (seeing, reading, hearing, etc.) and about the meaning of our existence. By thinking in this way we experience revelation (God revealing things to us, giving us understanding).

This makes sense to me. What good is our religion if it does not represent a personal, rational commitment? We aren't really practicing religion if we just go through the motions that represent soneone else's beliefs.

On the point about truth not being the most important consideration, I think perhaps he meant that we should consider everything at face value and apply the test of our own reasoning and previously acquired knowledge to it.

That way we make progress in arriving at a working knowledge of the truth.

Life is active and we must make decisions as we go along. We can't wait until some authority makes a final decision on what is "true."

Humanly speaking, there are no **final** decisions. We must do the best we can with the understanding we have at the time.

But I think we have an obligation to try to learn the truth, and the principal source of information on moral questions is the Church.

I am very pleased that since Vatican II the Church has decided to treat us as adults, even though we are as children before God. And I am grateful that the stimulating series of adult CCD talks is available.

Such presentations are not available in many locations. If we trust in God and follow his guidance we need not be fearful of searching for the truth, wherever and however it may be found.

Mary A. Delsman
Riverside

Plurality is 'double-talk'

Michael Newman's column "Oh, Those visiting theologians" (SD Nov. 30) was as adroit an example of side-stepping double talk as I have seen in print. He should be a politician.

And that all-enveloping phrase "plurality of theology." Isn't that, quite simply, another way of saying "double-talking religion?" Or am I just another "uneducated adult" member of the laity?

Mrs. Hazel Whitley
Victorville

Priests probably disgusted, not busy

You do the Catholic layman an injustice when you say some have not learned to accept the principle of plurality of theology.

All we have to do is read a few books or talk to a few priests and the plurality of theology becomes apparent.

This we can accept in many areas, but when the doctrine involved is a basic truth, in fact, the very foundation of Christianity as taught by the Church for centuries, there is no room for "plural theology."

Either Jesus was God or he wasn't. The question your readers are asking is: "How do you vote?"

I fail to see what the history of the lectures has to do with this. You say the priests were too busy to attend. The truth probably is that the priests were disgusted (Praise the Lord).

So, since the lecture sponsors couldn't feed their heresies to the clergy to be passed on to the laity, they decided to serve them to the laity direct.

True, some people need to study their religion, but whom would you have teach them — the proponents of "process theology" or those who still believe in the Nicene creed and the Baltimore catechism?

Ruth Curcio
Riverside

Cedar Center helps many in area

I believe that the Cedar Community Center, of which I am a member, is the most active and progressive in our area.

Downtown San Diego, where so many are alone and retired, it provides so many human contacts, numerous opportunities for use of idle time from story writing, dancing, language studies, etc. that no one need be lonely or unoccupied.

Its monthly program showing trips available and inter-center relations is amazing in its variety.

A lunch, very complete at ridiculously low cost, is provided every Thursday and is soon to be increased to twice weekly. Music and singing sessions, film shows, bridge and chess are daily events.

The limited management staff under the leadership of Sue Hart and Sister Justina involve members in volunteer work inside and outside the center.

I believe our Cedar Center is a model for all such worthy contributions to those who have reached the years of retirement from the world of labor but have energy and interests beyond the rocking chair.

J.P.
San Diego

(The Cedar Community Center is a part of the Catholic Community Services at 349 Cedar Street, next to St. Joseph's Cathedral. — Ed)

More praise for special on death

I want to commend you on the excellent edition of the **Southern Cross** regarding death. It was very outstanding and I can understand why you have received requests for additional copies.

You are editing an outstanding publication.

Rev. Melvin H. Harter
Executive Director
San Diego County
Ecumenical Conference

* * *

Let me thank you for your excellent supplement, "a time to die . . ."

But perhaps the greatest thanks should come from your readers . . . I believe your material to be one of the best-reasoned, well-rounded, objective and factual collection of beneficial information for the public that I have seen in a long, long time.

We, too, are very interested in informing the public so that they may make knowledgeable decisions. We spend a great deal of time in these endeavors and have tried to deal forthrightly with that which the public has every right to expect from a funeral director.

W. L. Bustard
Executive Secretary
National Selected
Morticians
Evanston, Ill.

Readers like the 'Southern Cross'

. . . one of the few good bargains left today.

F. P.
Lakeside

I like the **Southern Cross** very much and will pay the way I can. I am 82 years old and on Social Security.

Mrs. J. R.
Redlands

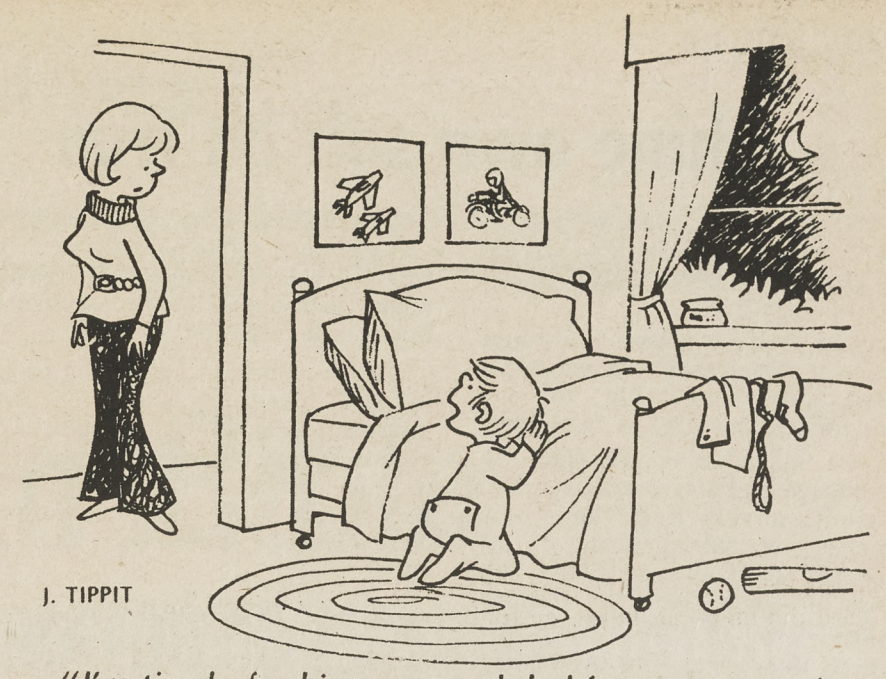
I enjoy your **Southern Cross** very much and look forward to receiving it.

Mrs. H. Q.
Spring Valley

May I congratulate you on the paper you are putting out. It's always so interesting.

Mrs. D. D.
San Diego

(Editor's note: In the SC of Dec. 3 Father Patrick J. Scanlan was described as associate pastor, Perris, in the signature to his letter. He is not associate. He is retired and lives at Perris, helping out at St. James.)



"I'm tired of asking you and dad for a motorcycle, so I've decided to go right to the top."

Parade magazine

Like to write?

Have you ever disagreed with or questioned a story or letter in the **Southern Cross?** Or, have you ever just felt good because of something you read in the paper? Something you learned?

Why not write us about it? Share your views with others. But, please, not more than 200 words. Send them to: Opinion Forum, Southern Cross, P.O. Box 81869, San Diego 92138.

But, please, if you do write to the **Southern Cross,** sign your letter. We receive many which have initials and no address. These cannot be considered for publication. Some letters are published with initials, but in every case we have been supplied with the full name and address, and the writer has requested the use of initials.

30 years ago . . .

From **The Southern Cross,** Dec. 11, 1942 — Pope Pius XII grants indulgence of three years for every recitation of special prayer to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

— Cardinal Joseph Van Roey, Primate of Belgium, stresses that despite the country's invasion, Catholics "have the right to proclaim, teach, defend and practice their faith and Catholic principles in all fields."

— More than 300 Catholics in Tyneside, northern Britain, attend services every Sunday night in air-raid shelter 80 feet underground to join those spending all night there on duty.

— Gen. Douglas MacArthur commissions Father Thomas Shanahan, SJ, a captain in the chaplaincy corps after priest serves as temporary chaplain on Red Cross ship taking servicemen wounded in Manila to Australian hospitals.

25 years ago . . .

From **The Southern Cross,** Dec. 12, 1947 — **L'Osservatore Romano,** Vatican daily newspaper, publishes front-page article saying the Catholic Church is against the "petrifaction of ideas and institutions and for the perpetual ascension of man and society."

— Pope Pius XII grants priests and people of France several special dispensations regarding Masses and the Eucharistic fast because of war hardships and food shortages.

— National Catholic Rural Life Conference opposes importation of migrant farm workers from across the border as a regular practice and asks federal control of interstate transportation of migrant workers.

— Nearly 1,000 Sodality children from Catholic schools enroll in the Scapular of Mt. Carmel society at a Mass in St. Joseph's Cathedral and pledge to wear the scapular every day.

"I'm all for open housing...

I just don't want it in our lovely, peaceful neighborhood". This is pretty much the same thing as saying I'm for righting a social injustice as long as there is no cost to me. Has it ever worked out that way? This planet is our neighborhood. And all its people are neighbors in the community of man.

PHOTOGRAPH BY LARRY SILVER



The community of man...God's club. It's not exclusive. It includes you and me.

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RELIGION IN AMERICAN LIFE

advertising contributed for the public good

As women will . . .
by Enid Lanyon

To thine own self be true

AS WOMEN WILL, we were talking about . . truth and authenticity and the many people who never truly face the reality of their lives.

I suppose it is our nature to attempt to present ourselves in the most attractive guise, not only to our acquaintances, but also to ourselves.

We are assaulted on all sides by make-believe and stereotype. Movies, television, novels and the "performances" of salesmanship of all categories surround us with the pressure of suggestion. The fictions contain just enough truth to mislead.

THERE IS something of the Walter Mitty in all of us. We choose our "type" or "ideal" and act up to it. Particularly when we are young, our attitudes and opinions tend to be self-conscious and dramatized — very much influenced by our stereotype.

Scratch the student rebel, or the lover vowing the world "well lost for love," and a whole bibliography of conditioning gospel is revealed. Life becomes more palatable, our inadequacies less apparent, if we doze a little beneath the covers of illusion.



But there is always the danger that illusion may dissolve into delusion. When we have not yet achieved, not yet accomplished, and the fear of possible failure is a pressing anxiety, then self-deception becomes a well-traveled avenue of escape.

WE MAY DENY that we are not brave, nor kind, nor loving and perhaps be justified, in the hope that we may thus become braver and kinder and more loving.

But to know within yourself, what you should be and to deliberately avoid what is necessary for that development, goes beyond harmless evasion into moral culpability.

We are intended to be loving people, in the "agape" sense — with brotherhood and responsibility for others. We are intended to remain true to our essential being and live reasonably with concern for the development of our intellect, spirit and body.

WE ARE INTENDED to realize our full potential as human beings and as Christians. To be wholly human, exercising and extending our faculties to their limits, is part of the Christian vocation.

A car will run without all cylinders operating, but not efficiently, and without full power. We may function with only partial activation of our capabilities, but with neither full effect nor power.

A man has to know himself before he can stimulate those areas of growth which need fertilization. We need to admit our weaknesses and lack of talent in areas where they exist, before we can concentrate on the strengths from which our contribution to life must come.

WE CANNOT claim to follow Christ unless we are prepared to school ourselves to that height of personal achievement through which we may aspire to real effectiveness as co-workers, co-teachers and co-redeemers with Christ.

When life is an exercise in self-interest, or a perpetual exercise in escape from reality, what hope is there for Christian witness? The Christian above all, has no right to compromise his potential or his contribution to the world.

Advent is a time for self-examination. It is the time to look frankly and honestly at the direction and effectiveness of our lives.

WE CANNOT BE true to Christ unless we are also true to ourselves and stand straight in integrity and freedom before God.

If ever there were a time to pause in truth to judge our own authenticity, it is now — as the Christian world awaits that star of truest light to lead us to Ultimate Truth, reborn.

Watch purse, packages as you shop

SACRAMENTO — "Hold on to your purse," when shopping for Christmas and New Year's, cautions the state attorney general's office. Other hints:

—Place purchases in automobile trunk, not on floor or seat of your car.

—Lock your car and close all windows.

—Hold purchases tightly so they can't be grabbed away.

—If using a charge plate, remember to get it back from the sales clerk.

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SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY — When Bobby Woo was born Nov. 20, 1967 he was officially designated by the U.S. Census Bureau as the 200-millionth American. Now five, he is shown saying grace at a nursery school near his home in Tucker, Ga. — RNS photo

A Catholic Cemetery



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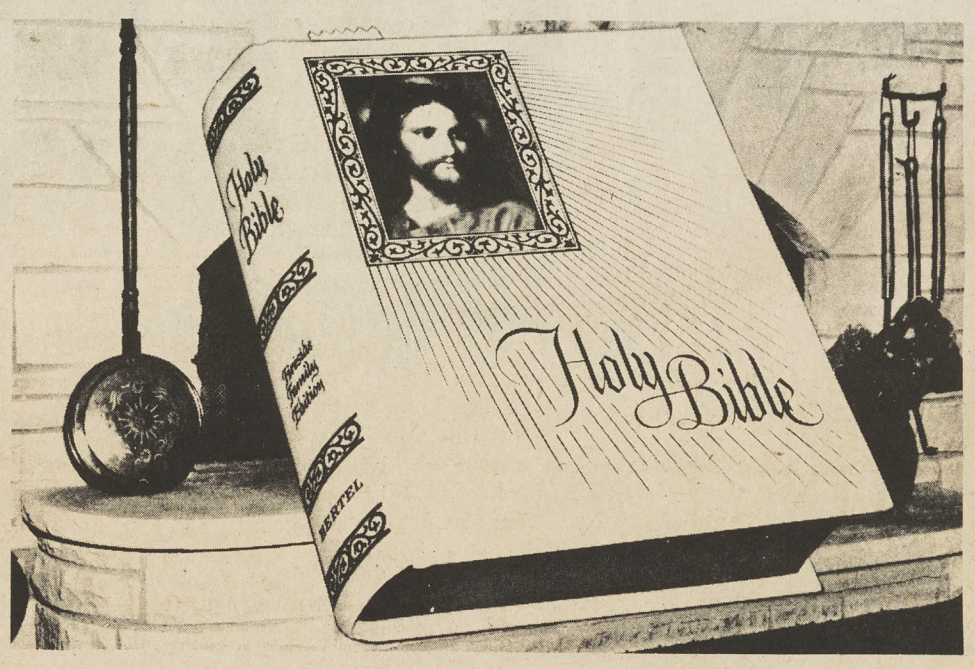
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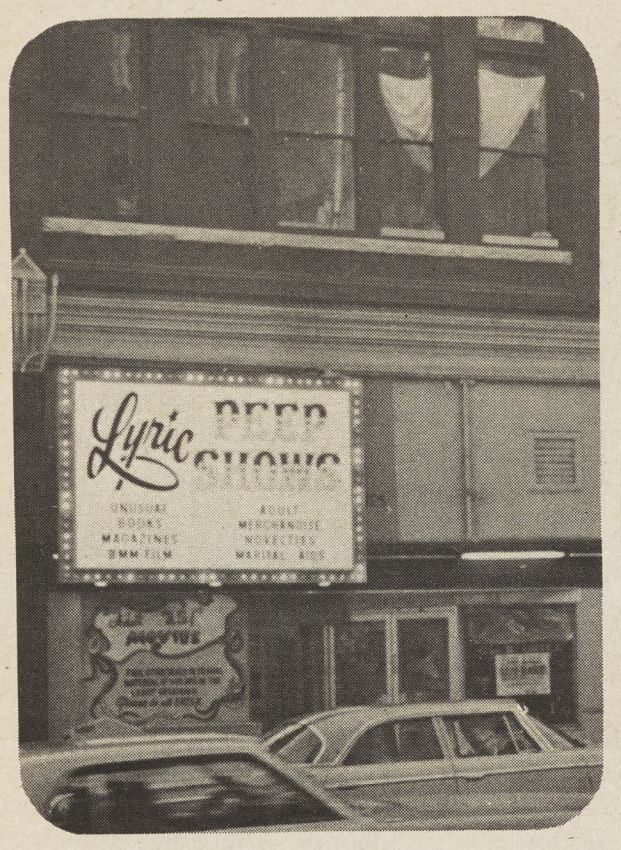
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Talking Point

For God's sake, dare to clean up our cit

THE U.S. SUPREME Court ruling of December loopholes in the drink-and-nudity business, is likely to of effective control.

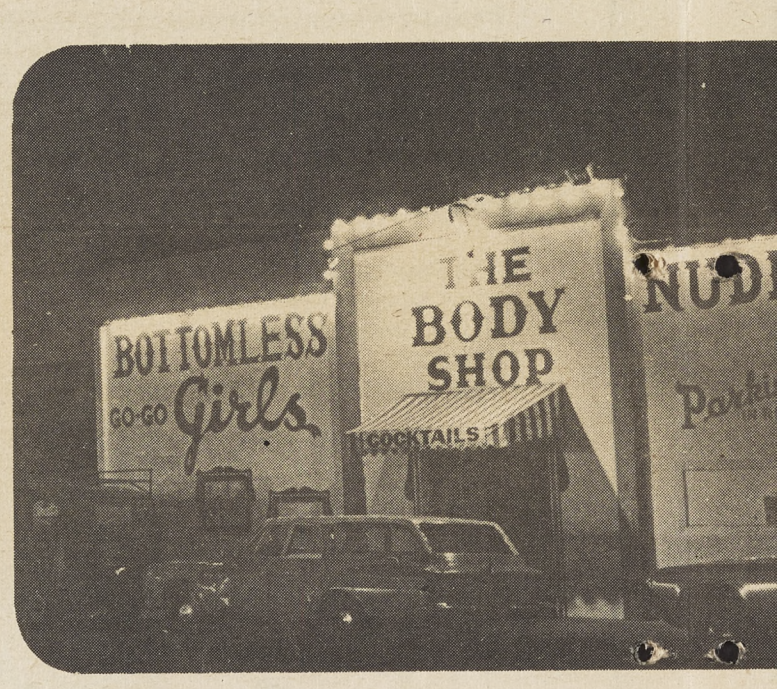
Although the state Alcoholic Beverage Control empowered to act, scenes such as these in our cities vanishing.

Except for the photo from Denmark, these Sout were all taken within the city of San Diego. They i nudity is the big draw, movie peep-show parlors whe and blatant X-rated motion pictures as regular featu theaters.

NOT SHOWN ARE the pornographic books re almost any bookstore in any city in California.

In addition to the overt sex-and-nudity shows and regular advertising of so-called massage parlors feat fied sections of many otherwise respectable newspap these are fronts for prostitution?

The *Southern Cross* prints these photographs to sh us and to remind all that, as witnesses for Christ, we against the spread of human degradation.



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San Diego Deanery
Council of Catholic Women

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Monday, December 18 - 11:30 a.m.
Forum Senate Room
Town and Country Convention Center

Those attending are requested to bring canned or other staple goods for Christmas baskets to be distributed by the Sisters of the Blessed Lady.

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age Control department is now
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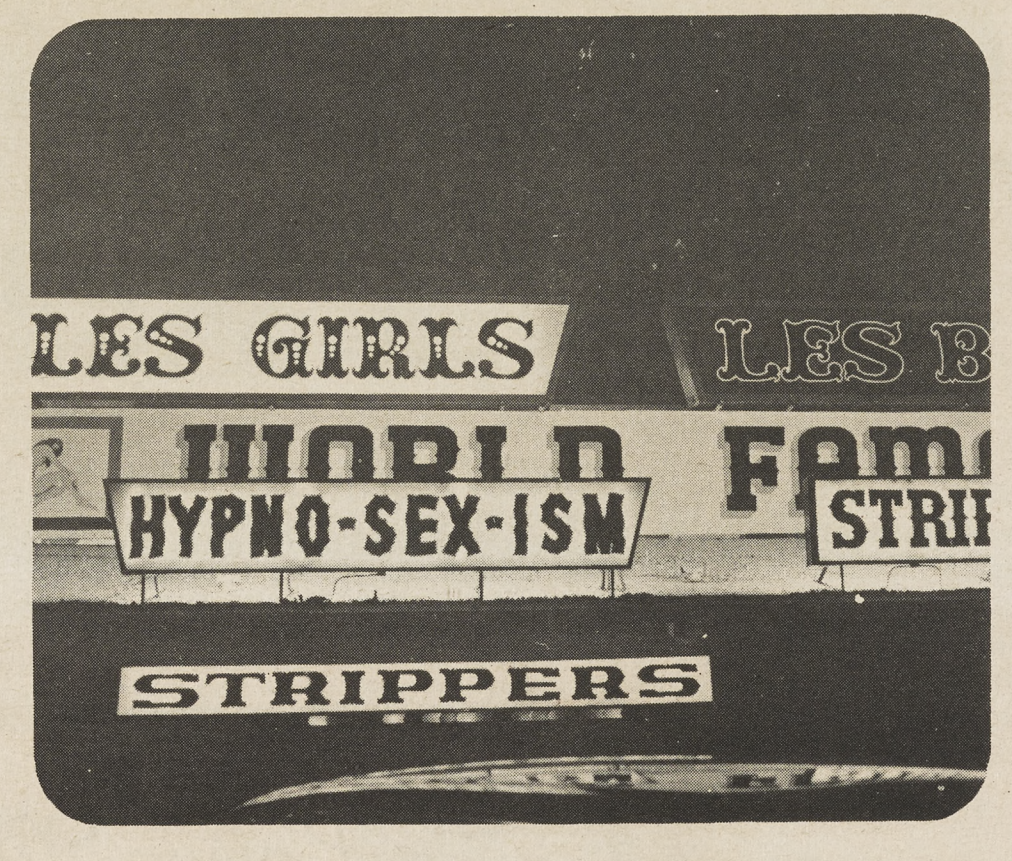
rk, these *Southern Cross* photos
Diego. They include bars where
w parlors where "anything goes"
regular features of small movie

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dity shows and bars, there is the
ge parlors featured in the classi-
table newspapers. How many of

ographs to show what surrounds
for Christ, we have a duty to act
.

Michael Newman
Editor









Will it come to this? — A 'supermarket' in Denmark.



Answer Please!

By Father Warren Rouse, OFM

Question:

When a priest drops the host when giving Communion, does he have to scrub the spot clean? I saw a priest drop a host at Mass recently and he picked it up and gave it to the next in line. He did not seem to mark the spot where the host had fallen, though.

Catholic theology has rightly upheld the truth that, after the consecration, Christ is truly and really present under the appearance of bread — or, if you prefer, the accidents of bread remain, but the substance does not.

J. Lecuyer emphasizes in a recent edition of **Notitiae** that "Christ is present in the species of bread as long as these pieces remain bread and as long as the sign of bread remains." And cites A. M. Roguet who argues: "It is important that the sign of bread is true — not only that it is physically or chemically intrinsically bread, but also that it is in truth bread apparently and phenomenally."

The New Order of the Mass reinforces this: "The nature of the sign demands that the material for the eucharistic celebration appear as actual food." (283)

The same document specifies that "If a host or any particle should fall, it is to be picked up reverently." Nothing is said about washing the spot. The underlying reasoning seems to be this: Christ remains present in the Eucharist as long as the sign of bread exists. But a minute crumb is not considered to be bread and therefore the presence of Christ is not contained in it.

For the scrupulous, however, a word of reassurance: newly ordained priests are traditionally instructed to have the intention of consecrating the host but not any particles (crumbs).

After he picks up the host, what should the priest do? There are several possibilities: the first would be to place the host in the tabernacle so that he could consume it later; or, secondly, place the host back in the ciborium. In that way, no one would know who actually received that host.

Question:

Why do we as Catholics keep Sunday as a day of rest? Christ said: "You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions." (Mark 7:8) How can we expect to get to heaven if we don't keep all of God's commandments?

At the outset, I would refer to an excellent book entitled **The Lord's Day** in which the author, Paul Jewett, reminds us: "On one point the scholars are all agreed. The first day (i.e., Sunday instead of 'Sabbath' or Saturday) was celebrated by Christians as a festival of the Resurrection; Sunday observance is grounded in the Easter event.

"But precisely how this came about is not easy to explain. It might be deemed strange that a custom so anciently attested and universally accepted as Sunday worship should elude our grasp as to its precise origin.

"But just because it was agreed that Christians should observe the first day by a common consent, the details of exactly when, where, and why this usage came about seem never to have engaged the writers of Scripture and the most ancient fathers."

Available evidence indicates that in the early Church both the Sabbath and Sunday were observed. It is true that we have no New Testament record of our Lord's having abrogated the Sabbath, although Justin (c.150) insists that it was in fact the Lord who determined that Sunday should be a day of weekly religious observances.

So well known to the pagans was the Christian observance of Sunday that some considered the Christians just another sect of sun-worshippers.

Besides the importance of Sunday as Christ's resurrection-day, the Christians were also conscious of the Lord's own attitude as reported in the Gospels: more than once he violated the Sabbath (Saturday) laws, insisted that the Sabbath is made for man and not man for the Sabbath, and proclaimed himself as Lord of the Sabbath.

In view of this, Jewett summarizes the early Christian attitude: "The freedom with regard to the Sabbath observance which marked the Christian community and distinguished it from Judaism is grounded in the freedom which Jesus himself claimed as Lord of the Sabbath.

"Christians would never have come to worship on another day, apart from this freedom respective the observance of the Sabbath, a freedom bequeathed to them by the Lord himself, whose presence was the fulfillment of the Sabbath rest."

What's ahead for you in the 'Southern Cross'

Next week your *Southern Cross* will be a Christmas special, with Mass times at many churches throughout the diocese, special features and pictures.

There will be no issue of the *Southern Cross* dated December 28, following Christmas. Instead every subscriber will receive an envelope for the second $3 of the annual $6 subscription.

This money goes to reimburse your parishes for their investment in the *Southern Cross*. So please send the envelopes back soon after you receive them. Please don't lose them with the post-Christmas wrappings.

Then the first issue of the New Year will be the official 1973 Diocesan Directory, giving you complete information about the diocese. Never before has it been made available on such a large scale—it comes as a bonus to *Southern Cross* readers on January 4.





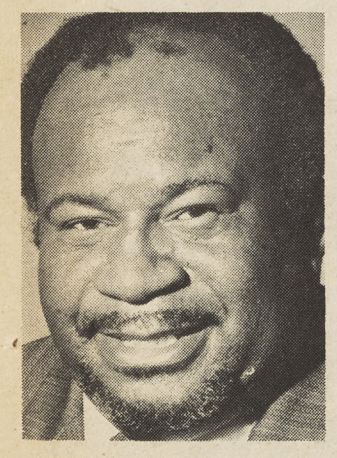
LOOK ALIKE? — It might be hard to tell, but Father Cosmas Meyer, SVD, of Riverside, left, and Father Clement Meyer, SVD, of Los Angeles, right, are twins. Both marked the 25th anniversary of their ordinations last Sunday at a concelebrated Mass in Our Lady of Perpetual Help church, Riverside. Father Cosmas, ordained Dec. 7, 1947 is treasurer of the Divine Word Seminary, Riverside. Father Clement, ordained Aug. 15, 1947 is pastor of St. Leo's parish, Los Angeles.

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BRAWLEY PASTOR — Father Fernando Iglesias, OMI, has been appointed pastor of St. Margaret Mary parish, Brawley, succeeding Father Amador Lopez, OMI, pastor since 1970. Father Iglesia was born in Spain and has been in the United States since 1956. He has spent 12 years in mission work. Father Lopez has returned to Santa Rosa church, San Fernando.



GETS USD POST — Willie Moore, former director of the Educational Opportunity Program at the University of San Diego, has been named community relations coordinator by Dr. Author Hughes, USD president. For 10 years Moore was USD athletic trainer. In his new post his major concern will be with minority groups, working in such areas as scholarships, state and federal-funded programs, employment and career opportunities.

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In Loving Memory

Into Thy hands, O Lord, we commend the spirits of these beloved ones who are gone before us into the realm of Thy eternal happiness and peace. – Amen.

FAIRBURN, Lena M. Wife of Robert Fairburn, mother of Linda and Rosemarie Fairburn, daughter of Peitro and Carmela Battaglia, sister of Marie, Frank and Salvatore Battaglia and Rose Gumina, also 17 nephews and nieces. Requiem Mass, Dec. 7, Our Lady of the Rosary Church.
Goodbody's Ivy Chapel.

FERRATT, Clemencia O. Mother of Sara Osuna, Consuelo Mendez, Margaret Martinez, Juanita Mojen, Armida Pontecorvo, Hortencia Torres, Delia Parra, Eva Arellano and Armando Ferratt, also 42 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Requiem Mass, Dec. 2, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.
Goodbody's Ivy Chapel.

HALLAHAN, Margaret C. Aunt of Tim and Michael Hallahan. Requiem Mass, Dec. 5, St. Didacus Church.
Goodbody's Blvd. Chapel.

HILL, Tierney Anne (T-Anne). Daughter of Dr. and Mrs. T. Kimball Hill, sister of Kimberly D. Hill, granddaughter of Mrs. William J. Tierney. Requiem Mass, Dec. 7, St. Agnes Church.
Goodbody's Ivy Chapel.

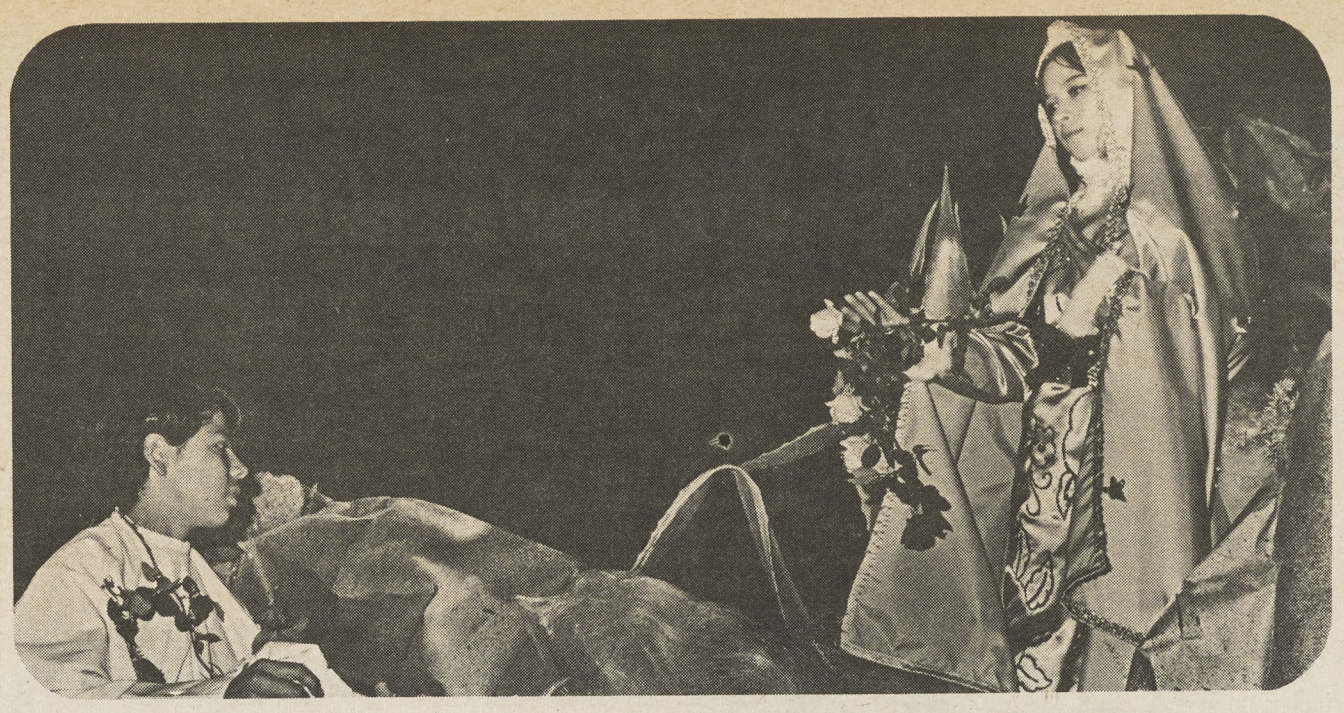
HUYS, Mary Ann. Mother of Vincent and Joseph Huys, Mary R. Johnson and Teresa Sanders, sister of Celia Seewald, Nellie Grace and Mrs. Jack Melady, also 13 grandchildren. Requiem Mass, Dec. 4, Blessed Sacrament Church.
Goodbody's Blvd. Chapel.

SARINANA, Carmen C. Mother of Angel and Manuel Flores, Epifanio Montelongo, Nellie Torrescano and Vera Tobias, sister of Jenaro Castro, also 17 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren. Requiem Mass, Dec. 5, Holy Spirit Church.
Goodbody's Blvd. Chapel.

SILVA, Joseph J. Father of Mary Goularte and Adeline Medina, brother of Maria C. Medina, uncle of John Vierra, Elvira Montiro, Rita Ballatore and Angie Mauricio, also four grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Requiem Mass, Dec. 7, St. Agnes Church.
Goodbody's Ivy Chapel.

WOODWARD, Charles P. Husband of Margaret Woodward, also three brothers and two sisters. Requiem Mass, Dec. 2, St. Therese of the Child Jesus Church.
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GUADALUPE PILGRIMAGE — Children from Our Lady of Guadalupe school, San Bernardino, re-enact story of the Virgin of Guadalupe at celebrations commemorating her feastday. Despite cold weather last Sunday more than 500 people marched in procession to the Guadalupe church for novena and Mass honoring Our Lady. Week-long celebrations ended with a 10 a.m. Mass Tuesday, Dec. 12, concelebrated by Bishop Leo T. Maher and Msgr. Rudolph Galindo, pastor of the Guadalupe parish. — Phil Miller photo



OVER THE BORDER — Principal concelebrant at El Centro festivities marking Guadalupe observance was Bishop Manuel Perez Gil, from Mexicali, Mexico, seen here in procession with Msgr. Luis Balderas, pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe church, Calexico.



SAY HELLO — Bishop Maher makes friends with two-year-old Francesco before the 2 p.m. Mass Sunday marking the feastday of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The boy is held by his father, Louis Alarid, of St. Anthony's parish, National City. — SC photos

Our Lady of Guadalupe
In El Centro

From page 1

Mexicali and for almost exactly three minutes an opening in the skies let the sun shine through — the only sun of the afternoon.

ASSISTED BY Msgr. Luis Balderas from Calexico and ten other priests, the bishop concelebrated the Misa Panamericana on the baseball diamond between the home plate and the pitcher's mound.

During his 35-minute homily, Bishop Perez Gil reminded the 1,000 Mexican-Americans present that they had come to a land of immigrant people, but they were a special immigrant group.

"You bring with you," he said in Spanish, "your faith, your Church. You have been chosen by God to carry this responsibility and to witness the faith." He also told them "you are all Juan Diego," the central figure of the Guadalupe story.

THE FIESTA QUEENS and attendants stood in the cold, family members coming forward periodically to give them a coat to put over their chilled shoulders.

The altar boys, sodalities, community groups and their banners and flags stood, sang and celebrated. But the cold day cut attendance by half from last year when the sun was hot.

At a reception later at Our Lady of Guadalupe hall, hosted by Father Dominic De Pasquale, Bishop Perez Gil gave his first English speech, in which he said how happy he was in his association with Bishop Leo T. Maher.

HE SAID THAT both he and Bishop Juan Jesus Posadas of Tijuana found joy in their relationship with the San Diego diocese across the border.

In San Diego

From page 1

reached the concourse, the sun tried hard to shine. But sponsors of the festivities were wise to hold the Mass indoors, instead of in Balboa Stadium as in the past.

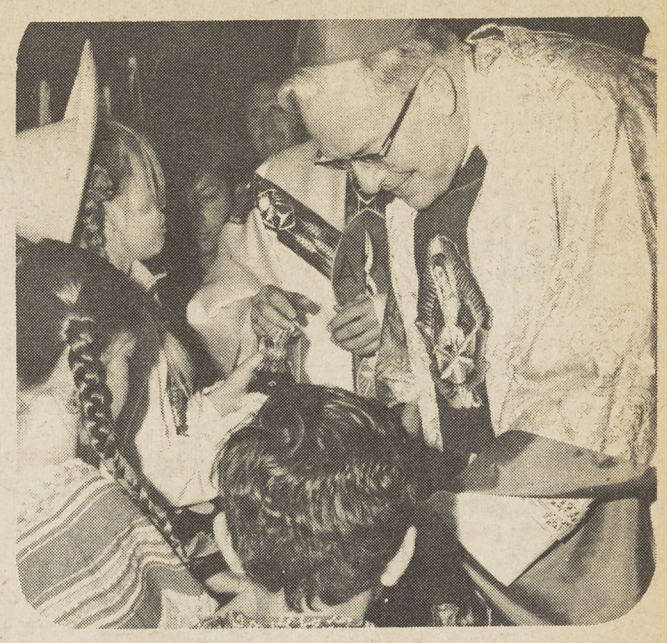
In front of the altar set up on the stage, the Guadalupe statue was crowned by Gloria Estolando, 20, of Chula Vista, a fiesta queen.

Assemblyman Chacon read the first text and Msgr. Chavez, also pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, San Ysidro, read the Gospel

FATHER JOHN Hurtado, head of the Office of Ethnic Affairs and Padre Hidalgo Center, told the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe who appeared to a poor Indian, Juan Diego, outside Mexico City in 1531.

The Guadalupe message, he said, is "love and dignity for all human beings. It's a call to serve all our brothers and sisters in need."

As participants left the Mass, through the light drizzle, they could see a huge rainbow arching across the sky in the east county area.



CHILDREN'S GIFTS — Wearing his Our Lady of Guadalupe chasuble, Bishop Maher accepts gifts from colorfully costumed children at Spanish Mass Sunday celebrating the Guadalupe feastday. The Mass in the Community Concourse, San Diego, was attended by about 3,000 people despite a persistent rain. —SC photo

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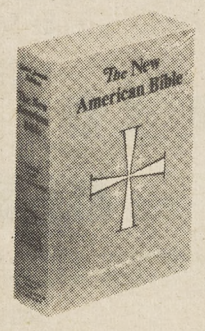
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Cardinal Cooke tells priests to balance ministry, social issues

YONKERS, N.Y. — Cardinal Terence Cooke stressed the need for a balance between the priest's attention to social issues and the "central work" of the priesthood — "bringing God's word and his sacraments to man and reconciling man to God."

Declaring that many issues — abortion, lack of vocations, alienation of youth from religion, poverty, racial injustice and others — "press us hard," the prelate told 600 priests at St. Joseph's Seminary, that they cannot be "effective pastors of souls unless they pay attention to issues of civic and social importance...

"But, it is a disorder, and ultimately a destructive one for a priest to devote himself exclusively to issues that are largely political or social, or even cultural or intellectual."

THE CARDINAL warned that such a preoccupation will distract the priest from crucial pastoral and religious matters "which must be central to his life..."

He asserted that Catholics have a right to find in the rectories and churches "men who are devoted primarily to the work of religion and the pastoral care of souls."

Happiness for the priest will depend largely on his knowing his life's goal, his adjustment to reality, his generosity, and "an underlying love of God..."

IF THESE are not present, the prelate contended, "then no pattern of work, no relationships with peers or superiors, no control of his own affairs and certainly no 'mechanical' reforms of priestly work will make him a happy man or encourage high morale."

Cardinal Cooke also warned against the "wholly unworthy" role of a priest who urges a fellow priest to quit the priesthood.

The departure of a man from the ministry is a "great sorrow — not to be celebrated or held up as an ideal solution to the problem" he said.

REFERRING to reports of "uncharitable,' behavior by priests, the cardinal urged total charity in approaching other priests, religious and laity when there is a difference of opinion.

He noted that in some rectories, "accusation replaces profitable disagreement and alienation replaces fraternity."

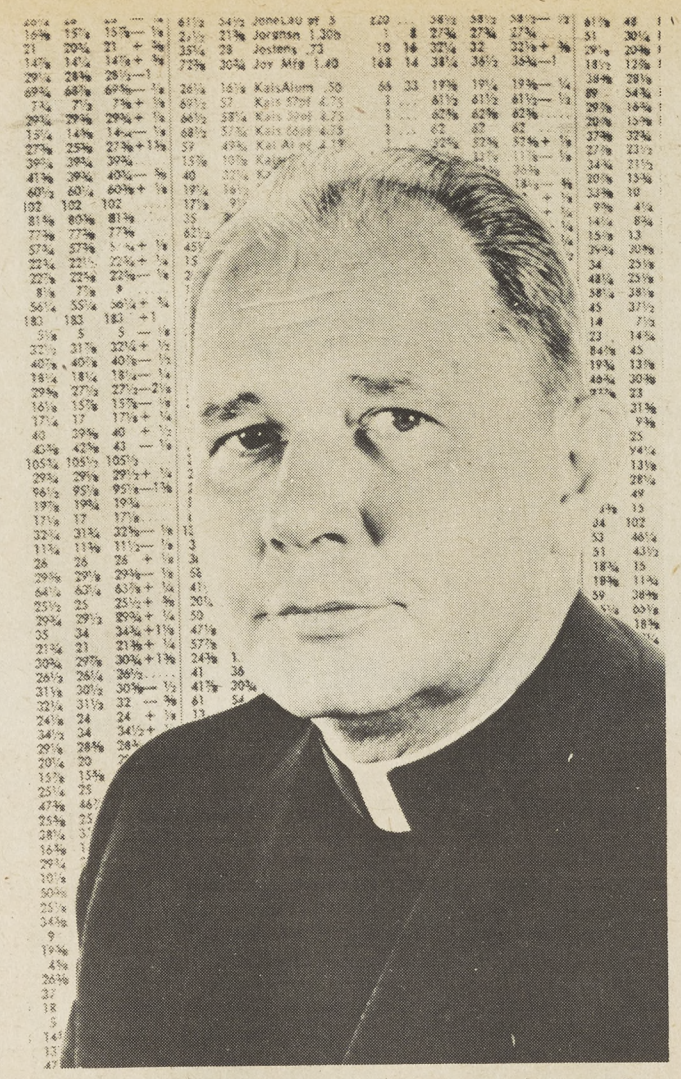
"No opinion...supersedes Christ's first law of charity," he said.

THE CARDINAL warned against "ridicule" of Catholic doctrine and the teaching authority of the Pope, noting that "some few priests speak disparagingly" of Catholic doctrine.

With regard to celibacy, he said "no compromise will be tolerated" if a priest chooses to defy the law and gives scandal.

At the same time, he urged priests to avail themselves of opportunities for personal and professional development, especially in theological knowledge and pastoral service.

Religious News Service



WALL STREET POET — For several years a J.F. Fenlon has been writing stock market poetry for the financial monthly, *Wall Street Reports.* **It has now been revealed that Fenlon is Paulist Father James F. Finley who has just published** *Songs for Stock-watchers,* **a slim volume of Wall Street-oriented verse. Father Finley is a former Paulist vicar general, missionary and author under his own name. — RNS**

Vatican upholds 'once a day' for Communion

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Generally speaking, Catholics should receive Communion only "once a day," according to a Vatican clarification relayed to the U.S. bishops by Archbishop Luigi Raimondi, Apostolic Delegate in the U.S.

The clarification came as a result of questions to the Vatican Congregation for the Discipline of the Sacraments asking whether bishops could permit the faithful to receive Communion more than once a day, outside of exceptional cases.

Archbishop Raimondi said the congregation reaffirmed the existing canonical discipline, but said a possible broadening of the discipline is now being studied.

AS IT STANDS now, certain exceptions to the rule are permitted. For instance, Catholics can receive Communion at Mass on Saturday morning and again Saturday night when fulfilling the Sunday obligation.

Also, diocesan bishops have the right to dispense in cases of individual and "strict" community needs.

The congregation affirmed the discipline contained in the Vatican II decree on the bishops' pastoral office and a subsequent papal directive that bishops cannot make general dispensations on receiving Communion.

A PARISH does not appear to meet the definition of a community in the strict sense "because in them the common life is not led," according to the congregation.

It cited a 1963 apostolic letter which gives no indication that a bishop may allow the faithful to receive Communion more than once a day.

Religious News Service

Father Bonnike resigns as NFPC president

FATHER Frank Bonnike of Rockford, Ill., has resigned as president of the National Federation of Priests' Councils effective Jan. 31.

He announced his resignation at a meeting of the NFPC board in Tampa, Fla. Father William Mooney, pastor of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart parish, San Diego, reported later:

"I was at the board meeting in Tampa when Father Bonnike resigned and it was quite a bombshell."

FATHER Bonnike told the board that it was time "for my own mental, physical and spiritual health, to form new perspectives and extend my ministry to a broader segment of God's people."

The board accepted his resignation "with great reluctance," it was reported. Father Reid Mayo of Burlington, Vt., as NFPC vice-president will succeed to the presidency.

Bishop John A. Marshall of Burlington, commented: "I am certain Father Mayo will work energetically for the priests as president of the NFPC.

"IN SO DOING he will also be offering a great service to the bishops and laity of the country as well."

Voters kill 'special position' for Catholic Church in Ireland

DUBLIN — Voters in the Republic of Ireland overwhelmingly approved a constitutional change removing the Catholic Church's "special position" in Irish national affairs.

Rescinded in the country's 1937 constitution was subsection 2 of Article 44:

"The state recognizes the special position of the Holy Catholic Apostolic and Roman Church as the guardian of the Faith professed by the great majority of the citizens."

LIKEWISE DELETED was another subsection which "also recognizes" other Churches existing in Ireland when the constitution became effective in 1937.

Prime Minister John Lynch and his government strongly supported the removal of the Catholic Church's favored constitutional status in the hope it would help clear the way for eventual unification with predominantly Protestant Northern Ireland.

Commented Cardinal William Conway, Primate of Ireland, after the referendum: "This is the sort of result I had confidently expected and I hope sincerely it does some good."

VOTERS ALSO lowered the minimum voting age from 21 to 18.

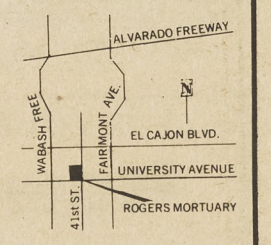
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AND COMING -- Every **Southern Cross** subscriber, at the beginning of 1973, will receive a full and expanded directory of the Diocese of San Diego, with more than 50,000 items of information. It will be mailed the first week of January. This directory, normally sold for $2, will come as part of the **Southern Cross** service to readers. Copies outside this distribution will cost $2 each.

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Temas de actualidad

Las posadas, el nacimiento, la nochebuena

Por el Padre Luis Bernal

LOS "SIGNOS" externos son la única manera de exteriorizar los pensamientos y sentimientos internos. La teatralización o representación viva de escenas, es uno de los signos más empleados por los pueblos latinos y en general por todas las razas.

Recuérdese el gran teatro Español del siglo de oro, el teatro universal y la importancia que los escenarios han adquirido en la televisión actual.

Las gentes que sienten más profundamente la necesidad religiosa la han expresado de manera maravillosa por medio de la escena.

EN MEXICO una de esas manifestaciones se presenta en la alegre costumbre de las "posadas" cuyo origen se remonta a más de cuatro siglos.

El 16 de Diciembre empieza este novenario de escenificaciones vivas que encierran un hondo sentido cristiano.

Cada noche una procesión acompaña a los santos Peregrinos, María y José, representados en estatuas o en personas caracterizadas, y que van en su histórico viaje desde Nazaret hasta Belén, pidiendo posada para que tenga un techo el Niño Dios que va a nacer.

LOS NUEVE días recuerdan los meses de la espera maternal.

Previamente las familias del vecindario han programado las posadas en las distintas casas. La procesión se va deteniendo frente a las puertas cerradas y los de fuera cantan versos sencillos en demanda de hospedaje, mientras los de dentro lo niegan también cantando.

Los peregrinos insisten en su petición ante varias mansiones, hasta que por fin una puerta se abre y empieza allí la algarabía de pitos, campanas, panderos, gritos y cantos.

JOSE Y MARIA ocupan su sitio en el "nacimiento" de la casa que los hospeda, y se da comienzo a la fiesta cuyo centro es ordinariamente la "piñata."

Esto culmina el 24 a las 12 de la noche, cuando entre la Virgen y su Esposo se coloca la imagen del Redentor recién nacido, en su cuna de pajas.

Todo gira en torno de ese otro "signo," el "nacimiento," creado en el siglo XIII por la imaginación poética y el profundo sentido humano de Francisco de Assisi que en un rincón de la Porciúncula reprodujo por la primera vez la escena de la Encarnación.

DESDE ENTONCES los misioneros Franciscanos llevaron la costumbre a todos los rincones del mundo y el "pesebre" donde empezó la redención, se convirtió en un motivo para el despliegue del arte y del ferver religiosos.

No se pueden cambiar los hechos ya cumplidos en la historia, por más que nos repugnen en sí o en sus circunstancias.

Dios nació en la ponuria de una pesebrera, y continuamos sin comprender ese misterio de su pobreza: un Dios que no tiene "casa" ni "clínica" donde venir a la luz, ni médicos ginecólogos ni enfermeras obstétricas que atiendan a su madre, ni salas de operaciones, esterilizadas donde se cumpla científicamente el parto.

Y PORQUE NO entendemos al Dios enamorado de la "Pobreza," el nacimiento, que nos grita al vivo este extraño misterio, tal vez nos disgusta por lo menos en el inconsciente.

No está de acuerdo con nuestra moderna civilización el hecho de que entre el televisor y la consola bar o estéreo, y en medio de los muebles de terciopelo, sobre una alfombra mullida, aparezcan las figuras risibles e infantiles de una mula y un buey en un pesebre donde yace un Dios tendido sobre el heno . . .

Todo esto se antoja hoy anacrónico y demasiado sentimental.

QUIZA POR eso nuestro subconsciente elegante ha resuelto que es mejor substituir las "pasadas" por bailes, y el "nacimiento" por la silueta de un árbol de luces salpicado de nieve.

Es preferible presentar la figura sonriente y satisfecha de Papá Noel o Santa Claus en vez de la ternura triste y deprimente de un niño que es un Dios pobre . . .

Estaría bien adaptarnos a los signos de los tiempos cuando corresponden a la verdad. Pero no podemos prescindir de la historia, y en el momento actual de ella la pobreza de Cristo continúa presente en la mayoría de los hombres:

TRES ENTRE cinco de ellos sufren hambre y solo el 5 per cent de la humanidad viven satisfechos mientras el resto se tortura con la angustia de las deudas, del trabajo mal pagado, de la lucha para sobrevivir y pagar impuestos, del anhelo imposible por salir de la esclavitud económica hacia la inalcansable superación.

En esa inmensa porción de los no satisfechos anda encarnado Jesús Infante pidiendo posada y preparándose a nacer entre una mula y un buey, sobre la cuna de heno . . .



INDITOS DE DIOS — Ninitos en sus trajes tipicos son recibidos por el Monsenor Rodolfo Galindo, parroco de la Parroquia de Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe, en San Bernardino, al entrar a la iglesia para la fiesta del Domingo. Como punto final se tuvo una tardeada despues de una semana de novena en honor a la virgen de Guadalupe. — Foto de Harry Gill

News in short . . .

CAMBRIDGE, England — The Rev. Tom Chipper, Baptist minister in Isleham, Cambridgeshire, bans baptism in the River Lark because its pollution makes believers come out "smelling of anything but violets."

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Cesar Chavez confirms he delined appointment to the Vatican's Pontifical Commission on Peace and Justice because of the "personal commitment to live, eat, pray, work and sleep" the farm labor movement.

MINNEAPOLIS — The University of Minnesota Episcopal Center moves across the street to the Catholic Newman Center building where it will have its own offices and worship area.

EDMONTON, Alta. — Victor Misutka, former night editor of the **Edmonton Journal,** is new editor of the **Western Catholic Reporter**, succeeding Douglas Roche, elected to Parliament.

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Father Kenny Sweeney, communications director, Indianapolis archdiocese, elected president of the U.S. chapter, International Catholic Association for Radio and Television.

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — The Knights of Columbus spent $10.9 million in 1972 for charitable, benevolent and other activities.

MILWAUKEE — Espiscopal Bishop Richard Emrich of Detroit warns that the celebration of Holy Communion used as part of political protests may make "the holiest act of our faith a publicity stunt to further our partial and limited causes."

CHARLOTTE, N. C. — Catholic Bishop Michael Begley of Charlotte plans to join other churchmen in visiting inmates at Mecklenberg County jail Christmas Eve.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NO. 101917

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Estate of)
CECILIA MARY BENTLEY, aka)
CECILIA M. BENTLEY)
Deceased.)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the creditors of the above named decedent that all persons having claims against the said decedent are required to file them, with the necessary vouchers, in the office of the clerk of the above entitled court, or to present them, with the necessary vouchers, to the undersigned at c/o Francis J. Maher, Atty. at Law, 4766 Cass Street, San Diego, Cal., 92109, which is the place of business of the undersigned in all matters pertaining to the estate of said decedent, within four months after the first publication of this notice.
Dated Nov. 24, 1972

ALPHONSUS G. BENTLEY
Administrator With the Will Annexed of the above named decedent
FRANCIS J. MAHER
Attorney at Law,
4766 Cass Street,
San Diego, CA 92109
PHONE: 276-3535
Attorney for Administrator With Will Annexed.
SC — Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14, 21, 1972

Universal Church

Across the nation Around the world

Pope: Don't forget gospel in aid

In VATICAN CITY, Pope Paul, speaking on Catholic relief and development work, stressed that proclamation of the Gospel is part of Christian aid.

"To limit willingly Christian action of aid and assistance to the purely economic, social or cultural aspects of development would be to fall short not only of the vocation of the Apostles, but also of the inspiration that rises from the depths of the human heart," he said.

NCC hears bishop on social concerns

In DALLAS, the National Council of Churches heard Auxiliary Bishop Patrick Flores of San Antonio stress the Christian concern with problems of social injustice.

"The present condition of man must be unacceptable to Christians," he told the Protestant-Orthodox council. "It is the very way we permit our social systems to rob natural resources and labor from one part of the world to benefit a tiny proportion of the world's population which is questionable."

'Faithful' sister 100 years old

In MANCHESTER, England, Sister Mary Teresa Jones finished her usual daily typing at Sedgley Park Training College before inspecting her 100th birthday gifts, which included a desk and bookcase from the college.

She received an Apostolic Blessing from the Vatican and messages from Queen Elizabeth, President Eamon De Valera of Ireland and many others. Sister Mary Teresa has been a Faithful Companion of Jesus for 75 years.

Florida restores death penalty

In TALLAHASSEE, Fla., the state legislature became the first to reinstate capital punishment for certain crimes, since the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the death penalty.

Florida established capital punishment for premeditated murder, rape of a child under 11 by a person over 17 and sale of heroin which results in death. The governor was expected to sign the bill.



UP IN FLAMES — Spectacular blaze engulfs St. Boniface Catholic Church, Williamsport, Pa. The 97-year-old church was practically destroyed by fire which started in the basement and spread throughout the building. — RNS photo

Prophetic voice silenced — NOBC

IN WASHINGTON, D.C., the National Office for Black Catholics told President Nixon that he had "silenced a prophetic voice that spoke in behalf of the oppressed" when he asked for the resignation of Father Theodore Hesburgh as chairman of the Civil Rights Commission.

"We cannot help but wonder how you were able to seek out grounds of cooperation and dialogue between the U.S. and China and Russia and yet were unavailable to converse with Father Hesburgh and the commission on domestic issues vital to the well-being of our country," the NOBC said.

On-going talks focus on action

In GENEVA, top-level Catholic-Lutheran talks "advanced ecumenical relations" and underscored the Christian meaning of interdenominational cooperation and the need for common Christian motivation.

The report came from Cardinal Jan Willebrands, head of the Vatican Secretariat for Christian Unity, and Dr. Andre Appel, general secretary of the Lutheran World Federation.

Maryknoll elects superior general

In MARYKNOLL, N. Y., Father Raymond A. Hill, MM, was elected superior general of the Maryknoll Fathers. He has been a regional superior in Chile since 1967.

Succeeding Father John J. McCormack, MM, he was elected at a general chapter also attended by Bishop James E. Walsh, a former Maryknoll superior who was released from a Chinese prison two years ago.

Anti-abortion drive planned

In HARRISBURG, the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference pledged to try again next year to get a strict abortion law passed by the state legislature and signed by the governor.

The conference, which represents the state's Catholic bishops, acted after Gov. Milton Shapp vetoed a bill to permit legal abortions only to save the mother's life.

Coming of Christ theme for Advent

In VATICAN CITY, Christians were urged by Pope Paul to use Advent as a time to renew mankind's hope of "meeting with God in Christ, who is coming."

"Religious indifference which expresses an attitude of intellectual laziness that simply ignores the question of God is neither intelligent nor human," he said. "Man is made to know God and love and serve God in this life and to enjoy a direct and immediate vision of God in the next."

Woman heads campus ministry

In DETROIT, a woman was named to head the campus ministry at the Jesuit University of Detroit. Dr. Anne Bieniewski becomes perhaps the first woman to hold such a post at any Jesuit college in the world.

As Associate Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Bieniewski will be in charge of coordinating the "tremendous assets of the university in searching for Christ. The time has come to unite our efforts in true ecumenical fashion respecting the various faiths we have on campus," according to a university announcement.

Around the moon he misses Mass

In SPACE, Navy Capt. Eugene Cernan missed Sunday Mass as his Apollo 17 sped toward the moon, but he sent word to his pastor to "put in a good word for us."

"It doesn't look like I'll have a chance to go to church today, but under the circumstances I guess it'll be OK," said the Apollo 17 commander. Meanwhile his wife, Barbara, and daughter, Tracy, 9, attended Mass in St. Paul's Catholic church, Houston, Texas.

NCC elects first black president

In DALLAS, the National Council of Churches elected its first black president since it was formed in 1950. He is the Rev. W. Sterling Cary, administrator of the United Church of Christ Greater New York District.

He succeeds the NCC's first woman president, Dr. Cynthia Wedel. The NCC comprises 33 Protestant and Orthodox church groups.

U.S. bishops get general secretary

In WASHINGTON, D. C. Father James Rausch of St. Cloud, Minn., was elected general secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and the U. S. Catholic Conference.

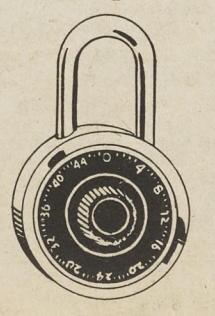
He will succeed Archbishop-elect Joseph Bernardin who was named to head the Cincinnati archdiocese. Father Rausch has been NCCB associate general secretary.

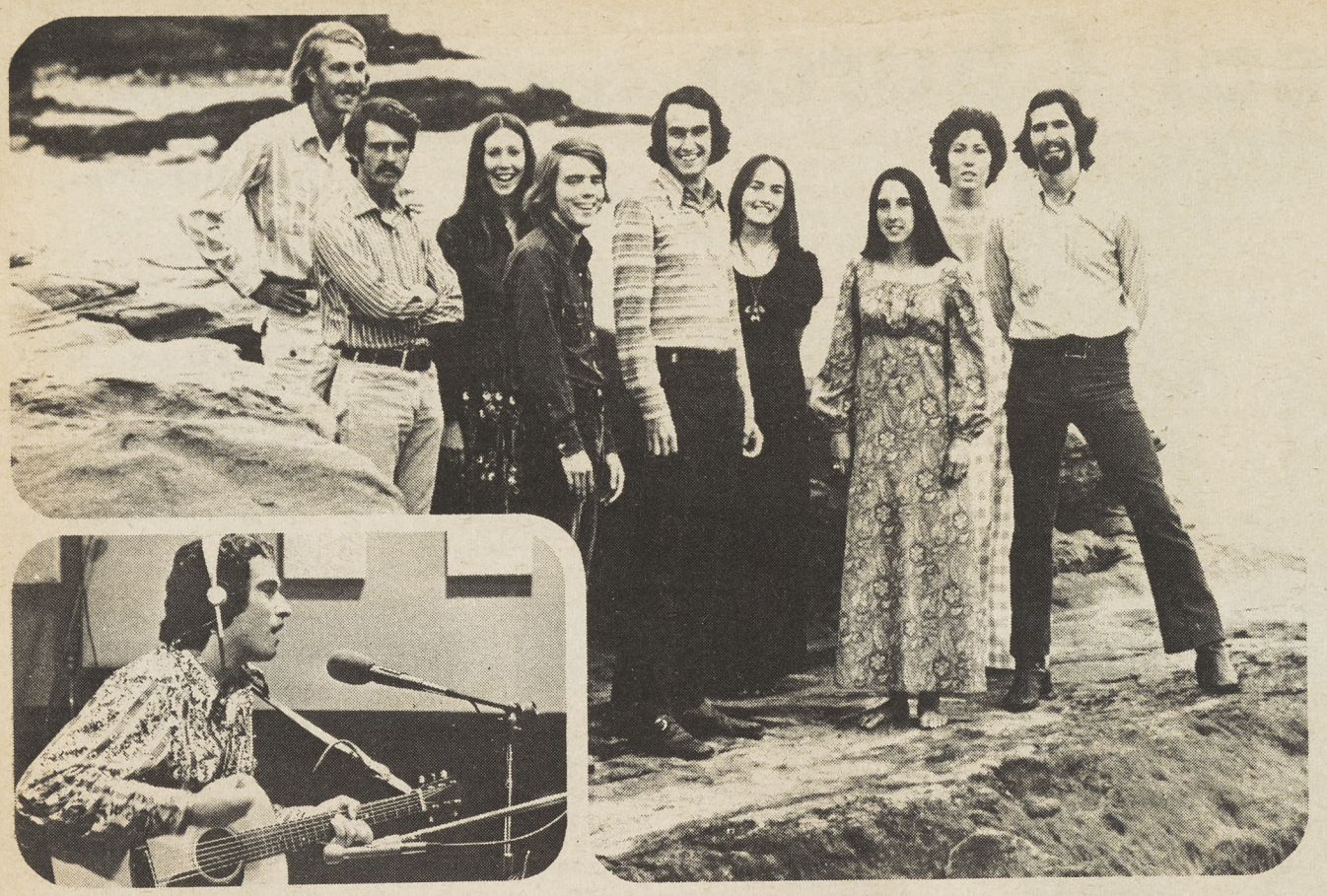


DRUG VICTIM REMEMBERED — A Memorial Mass for 18-year-old Rafael Cordero, photo at left, is concelebrated in Our Lady Queen of Angels church, New York, by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen and other priests. Rafael was the first youth to die from an overdose of drugs since an ecumenical drug treatment center opened last year in the East Harlem neighborhod. After the Mass the center dedicated new facilities across the street from Queen of Angels church.

RNS photo

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BEGAN WITH FOLK MASS — The Friends of the Family are seen on rocky beach not too far from St. James parish in Solana Beach where they sing for 9 a.m. folk Mass on Sundays. Group has made a recording of church and secular folk music under sponsorship of Msgr. William Spain, pastor of St. James. Director-composer for the Friends, Ed Shafranske, is shown, inset photo, at recording sessions. — Jack Elliott photos

Friends of the Family— from Sunday Mass to recording artists

Southern Cross Reporter

SOLANA BEACH — In the parish of St. James, where the surf meets the turf of Del Mar racetrack, they call the group Friends of the Family. On Sundays they make the church-in-the-round here echo to folk music at the 9 o'clock Mass.

Now, with the music of their young director, Ed Shafranske, they have produced an album which is receiving wide approval and is being played on several radio stations.

"Celebrate" is the name of the recording, and it consists of church and contemporary music. It includes parts of Shafranske's Mass, and songs like "Will You Shine for Me?"

WITH THE APPROVAL and sponsorship of their pastor, Msgr. William Spain, the group has steadily developed what he calls "a splendid sense of community at the weekly Mass."

They are also well known for their visits to other churches in the diocese, demonstrating their abilities at Masses and in concert.

The album was recorded by Studio West, San Diego. Shafranske, a scholarship student at Immaculate Heart College, Los Angeles, received production help from TV personality Desi Arnaz, who lives in the parish.

ALBUMS ARE available at $5 each from St. James church, Solana Beach, or telephone 755-2545.

Book reviews

OUT OF THE DEPTHS BY FATHER WILLIAM J. COLLINS N.Y., DOUBLEDAY. 287 pages, $5.95.

The Thomas Eagleton affair at last summer's Democratic convention focused our attention on the problems faced by those who have had psychiatric care.

Father Collins is a Stigmatine Father who was noted for his retreats and lectures. Then he had a complete nervous breakdown and was hospitalized for two years.

He details the anxieties and fears that led to his crisis. Then he comments on the treatment he received and his recovery. This fascinating volume can give hope to thousands of people.

ACQUAINTED WITH GRIEF by Ada Campbell Rose. Philadelphia, Westminster Press. 96 pages, $4.50.

The death of a Christian is a noble re-birth into eternal life and love. But what about those who are left behind?

Mrs. Rose addresses herself to widows and widowers, and to all who are suffering from the loneliness of being bereaved.

She is particularly interested in those who do not have the consolation of a deep Christian faith.

Her advice is kind, practical and in itself a great comfort.

THE DIVORCED CATHOLIC by Dr. James J. Rue and Louise Shanahan. N.Y., Paulist Press. 312 pages, $1.95 pb.

The plight of the divorced Catholic is one that cries out to heaven for sympathy. The numbers of divorced Catholics are sky-rocketing.

The authors in this wise and helpful book proceed by way of case history to consider divorce and its many tragic after effects.

It is a moving appeal to the theologians to find ways of helping the divorced.

The book does not give answers; it defines the problem. And that is a tremendous contribution to the ultimate solution.

THOMAS MERTON: A DIFFERENT DRUMMER by Father Robert J. Voigt. Liguori Publications. 127 pages, $1.50 pb.

Father Thomas Merton was as modern a Christian as one could find. His long years of Trappist silence were interrupted only to share his insights with his readers.

Father Voigt takes the three principle areas of Merton's thought and discusses them. These are pacifism, racism and personal spirituality.

Readers familiar with Father Merton's works will enjoy this volume very much. Others will find it a valuable introduction to the great spiritual leader.

THE THRESHING FLOOR by Father John F.X. Sheehan, SJ. N.Y., Paulist Press. 208 pages, $3.95pb.

Is the Old Testament a mystery to you? Father Sheehan provides a most enlightening interpretation of the great themes of the Old Testament.

After reading this delightful volume, parts of the book will still be mysterious, but there will be reasons for the mystery.

An important aspect of this volume is its successful attempt to apply the timeless truths of the Old Testament to modern Christianity.

Father Charles Dollen

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